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#### TYPES OF ADVISORIES

##### Bulletin

Describes current developments or general trends regarding threats of terrorism.

##### Elevated Alert

Warns of a credible terrorism threat against the United States.

##### Imminent Alert

Warns of a credible, specific and impending terrorism threat against the United States.

**Office of Protective  
Services**

**July 2019 DHS Bulletin**

## **NASA CI/CT MONTHLY NEWS UPDATE – August 2019**

*This monthly newsletter is published to inform NASA personnel of significant issues related to counterintelligence, counterterrorism, and counterintelligence cyber matters. To learn more about CI/CT awareness, or to schedule a CI/CT presentation, please contact the CI point of contact located on the last page.*

### **Significant Counterterrorism (CT) Issues:**

#### **ISIS CALIPHATE IS GONE, BUT THREAT REMAINS, DUNFORD SAYS**



There can be no doubt that the strategy to drive ISIS from its so-called caliphate in Syria and Iraq has succeeded, but that does not mean the struggle against the ideology is over, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said in Baghdad.

<https://www.defense.gov/explore/story/Article/1918561/isis-caliphate-is-gone-but-threat-remains-dunford-says/>

#### **IRAN 'READY TO STRIKE' IN THE WEST USING SLEEPER CELLS: REPORT**

With tensions between Iran and Britain escalating over the seizure of a British tanker, the Daily Telegraph reported recently that British intelligence agencies "believe Iran has organized and funded sleeper terror cells across Europe including the U.K. and could attack in response to a conflict in the Gulf."



<https://www.forbes.com/sites/zakdoffman/2019/07/22/warning-as-iran-ready-to-strike-in-the-west-using-sleeper-terror-cells-report/#27505cc6038c>

#### **IS THE U.S. FACING A GROWING TERROR THREAT – FROM CANADA?**



During the first six months of 2018, six foreign individuals listed on the Terrorist Screening Database were stopped while attempting to enter the country from Mexico, according to US government officials. At the Canadian border? Forty-one people.

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/the-americas/is-the-us-facing-a-growing-terror-threat-from-canada-1.888007>

### **Significant Counterintelligence Issues:**

#### **FBI DIRECTOR SAYS CHINA IS AMERICA'S BIGGEST ESPIONAGE THREAT**

FBI Director said recently that China poses more of an espionage threat against the United State than any other country, including Russia, and that the agency has more than a thousand ongoing investigations into intellectual property theft linked to Beijing.

<https://nypost.com/2019/07/23/christopher-wray-says-china-is-a-bigger-espionage-threat-than-russia/>





## AS SCRUTINY OF CHINA GROWS, SOME U.S. SCHOOLS DROP PROGRAMS



American politicians, China analysts and the national security establishment are in broad agreement that China is waging a massive spying campaign against the U.S. The targets include classified government and military secrets, high-tech companies and university research.

<https://www.npr.org/2019/07/17/741239298/as-scrutiny-of-china-grows-some-u-s-schools-drop-a-language-program>

## IRANIAN CAUGHT IN SMUGGLING ATTEMPT OF NUKE MATERIALS

An Iranian national was caught attempting to smuggle materials that can be used to enrich uranium, the key component in a nuclear weapon, out of the US, according to the US Justice Department. Iranian citizen Behzad Pourghannad attempted to smuggle carbon fiber out of America and ship it to Tehran. Pourghannad was arrested in May 2017 in Germany and later extradited to the US.



<https://btnews.online/iranian-national-caught-attempting-to-smuggle-nuke-materials-out-of-the-us/>

### **Analyst Notes – Items to Watch:**

Despite the significant military defeat of ISIS as a conventional military force occupying Iraq and Syria, evidence is growing that ISIS is transitioning into a terrorist organization inside Iraq. In addition, Al Qaeda affiliated groups in Africa and South East Asia appear to be growing in strength and influence. Hezbollah, the face of Iranian state sponsored terrorism has grown bolder in 2019 in its expansion and aggression. The worldwide Jihadist movement shows no sign of weakening with plots against the West continuing monthly. Chinese espionage aimed at US technology and research continues on many levels. Foreign collection operations, led by China are widespread as China, Russia and Iran pursue advanced western technology including R&D. The NASA CI/CT division continues to monitor these threats and any others that have the potential to harm NASA or its equities.

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